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16. A method for processing a pilot reference, comprising: receiving a plurality of pilot references transmitted from a plurality of access points, the pilot references from each access point being transmitted in pilot bursts that are synchronized with a common time reference used by each of the plurality of access points and transmitted at a same predetermined time interval during which all of the access points transmit a pilot burst such that at least respective portions of the pilot bursts overlap in time;

determining link conditions based on the pilot references; determining an access point having a highest signal quality based on the link conditions; and

determining a highest supported data rate for the access point having the highest signal quality.

17. The method for processing a pilot reference according to claim 16, further comprising:

determining an access point having a best signal quality based at least on the received pilot reference.

18. The method for processing a pilot reference according to claim 16, further comprising:

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correlating received samples with a pilot data pattern for the pilot reference being recovered.

19. The method for processing a pilot reference according to claim 17, further comprising:

determining a highest data rate supported by the access point.

20. The method for processing a pilot reference according to claim 18, further comprising:

despreading the samples with a same PN sequence at a same time offset.

21. The method for processing a pilot reference according to claim 20, further comprising:

decovering samples with a same orthogonal code used for the pilot reference at a selected access point.

22. The method for processing a pilot reference according to claim 21, wherein the pilot bursts are aligned in time at the time of transmission.

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